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# ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT

## THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF SISAL TO THE US AND OTHER FREE WORLD COUNTRIES



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ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

Agricultural Subcommittee

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FOREWORD

This report was prepared on the basis of contributions from the Department of Agriculture and CIA. The report has been concurred in by the EIC Agricultural Subcommittee including the intelligence representatives from CIA, Munitions Board, Foreign Operations Administration (formerly MSA), and the Departments of State, the Army, the Navy, and Agriculture. The report has been approved for issuance as a Subcommittee Report by the Economic Intelligence Committee.

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THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF SISAL  
TO THE US AND OTHER FREE WORLD COUNTRIES\*

Summary

Sisal, the most important hard fiber in terms of quality and use in the cordage industries throughout the Free World, is an important strategic commodity and is now being stockpiled in the US. World production for the period 1948-50 averaged annually about 287,000 tons,\*\* which consisted of 72 percent from Africa, 25 percent from Latin America, and 3 percent from the Far East. In recent years, almost 99 percent of the annual exportable supply of sisal (an average of 258,000 tons annually during 1948-50) was exported to the principal industrial countries in the Free World.

The US, its allies, and many of the other Free World countries are wholly dependent for sisal upon outside sources of supply. During the period 1948-50, the US received approximately 60 percent of its annual requirements for sisal from Latin America and 40 percent from Africa whereas the UK depended upon Africa for essentially all of

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\* This report contains information available as of 1 August 1952. The basic statistics used in this report were provided by the Foreign Agricultural Service, US Department of Agriculture, as an unclassified contribution to the section on agriculture in NIE 56. Eval. A-1.

\*\* All tonnage figures used in this report are metric tons.

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its sisal. Other US allies obtained from 90 to 95 percent of their sisal from Africa and the remainder from Latin America and the Far East. The other Free World countries are dependent in varying degrees upon Africa, Latin America, and the Far East. Denial of only the Latin American supply to the Free World could in a few years be replaced with the use of substitutes and increased production of sisal elsewhere. Substitutes and new plantings could mitigate to some extent the denial of African sisal, if the other areas were not denied, but many years would be required for this accomplishment.

It should be noted that, while this report refers largely to the period 1948-50, from 1950 through 1952 there have, in general, been no radical changes in the geographical pattern of production and imports. However, the continued increase in total world production and the increasing importance of Latin America, especially Brazil, as a source of supply, do represent significant developments.\* (See Tables 1 and 2\*\*).

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\* Foreign Agricultural Service, "World Hard Fiber Production," Foreign Agriculture Circular, Department of Agriculture, 5 June 1953.  
\*\* Table 1 follows on p. 13 and Table 2 follows on p. 15.

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1. Introduction.

Sisal is an important strategic commodity and presently is being stockpiled by the US. Sisal, however, cannot be stored for more than a few years without deterioration. Consequently, sisal held in the national stockpile must be replaced periodically by new supplies. Because of this rotation problem, the US stockpile objective for sisal is at present considerably less than would be the case if it were determined on the standard Munitions Board formula: that is, on the basis of the deficit between "factored" supplies and estimated requirements for a 5-year emergency. The US, its allies, and almost all of the other non-Communist countries in the Free World depend upon distant areas for their supplies of sisal. In addition, because some substitute fibers are also produced in areas far removed from where they are consumed, the problem of supply during wartime is very important. Available information does not indicate any stockpiling of sisal by countries other than the US.

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Sisal alone does not satisfy the world requirements for hard fibers either in terms of quantity produced or in terms of quality of fiber. Other fibers such as abaca and henequen can be used either as substitutes for or as complements to sisal. Sisal is a more versatile fiber than either abaca or henequen and is produced in greater quantity than abaca and henequen combined.

2. Use, Interchangeability, and Substitutes.

Utilization of the important hard fibers, sisal, abaca, and henequen is generally determined by the quality requirements of the finished product and by price considerations. These fibers are utilized mainly in the manufacture of cordage materials. Abaca is the most expensive and has the highest quality rating as a cordage fiber and is followed by sisal and then henequen. Abaca is used primarily in the manufacture of marine cordage goods because of its exceptional tensile strength and its resistance to the action of sea water. These qualities are of utmost importance in wartime uses of abaca. Although sisal is not so strong or quite so resistance to the action of sea water as abaca, its

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absorption of water without appreciable swelling makes it in many instances a good substitute for abaca. Since henequen is cheaper and has less durability and strength than sisal, it invades the field of sisal uses only where strength considerations are secondary to price considerations.

Sisal and henequen are very closely related in physical makeup, are tolerant to the same cultural conditions, and are used somewhat interchangeably in the US. Because of economic considerations, henequen is not produced in so many areas as sisal. Historically, henequen and henequen twine from Mexico have been used as binder twine in the US. The development of baling machines during and after World War II has created a new and larger demand for sisal, since this fiber's superior strength makes it preferable to henequen as a baler twine. Also, with a decrease in the price of sisal, it appears that this fiber is being used increasingly for binder twine. In 1951, about 52,000 tons of sisal went into the manufacture of baling twine, and a requirement of almost 64,000 tons was anticipated for 1952. During the past year, industry has centered its purchasing activities on sisal in preference to henequen. Sisal is also being used increasingly in the manufacture of heavier twines, ropes, and marine cordage, being the most satisfactory substitute for abaca.

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By a process of softening sisal fibers, yarns soft enough to be woven have been produced and made into sacks for coffee. Sisal is used widely in floor coverings, especially summer rugs. The fiber is also used in brushes, and sisal waste, beaten out in the brushing process, is used in cheap twines and in upholstery. Since sisal production is concentrated mainly in nondollar areas, it is preferred in the UK, France, and the Benelux nations as the main hard fiber, being substituted for abaca where quality requirements permit.

Fibers such as henequen, hemp, jute, istle, cotton, and coir can be used as substitutes for sisal for many uses, but in some instances at a loss of quality and durability. Most of these substitute materials are produced in areas other than those in which sisal is produced and also at great distances from areas where they are consumed. Except for cotton, henequen, and istle, the problem of producing and transporting substitutes in case of the denial of sources of sisal supply would present problems.

3. Dependency of Major Consuming Countries on Outside Sources of Supply.

a. US.

The US, the world's largest consumer of hard fibers, is completely dependent upon foreign sources for its supply of sisal. During the period 1948-50 the US received slightly over 60 percent (an annual average of about 45,400 tons) of its sisal from Latin America,

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particularly from Haiti and Brazil; slightly less than 40 percent (an average of about 26,800 tons) from Africa; and a negligible amount from the Far East.

b. US Allies.\*

The US allies, mostly NATO countries, have obtained, in recent years, from 90 to 95 percent of their sisal from Africa, principally from British East Africa. During 1948-50, shipments of sisal from Africa to these countries amounted to an annual average of 159,000 tons (approximately 94 percent of their total receipts). The remaining 10,400 tons (approximately 6 percent) came from Latin America. The UK, for example, received virtually all of its sisal from Africa.

c. Other Free World Countries.\*\*

Countries in the Latin American area obtain their sisal primarily from Haiti and Brazil, and the remaining countries of the Free World obtain their sisal from Africa. During the period 1948-50, this group of countries consumed 12,600 tons of African sisal and 3,300 tons of Latin American sisal (approximately 80 and 20 percent, respectively).

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\* In this report, US allies include the 13 NATO countries (the UK, Canada, Iceland, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Italy, Norway, Denmark, Turkey, and Greece) and Western Germany, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand.

\*\* Other Free World countries include all areas outside the Soviet Bloc except the US and its allies.

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4. Production.

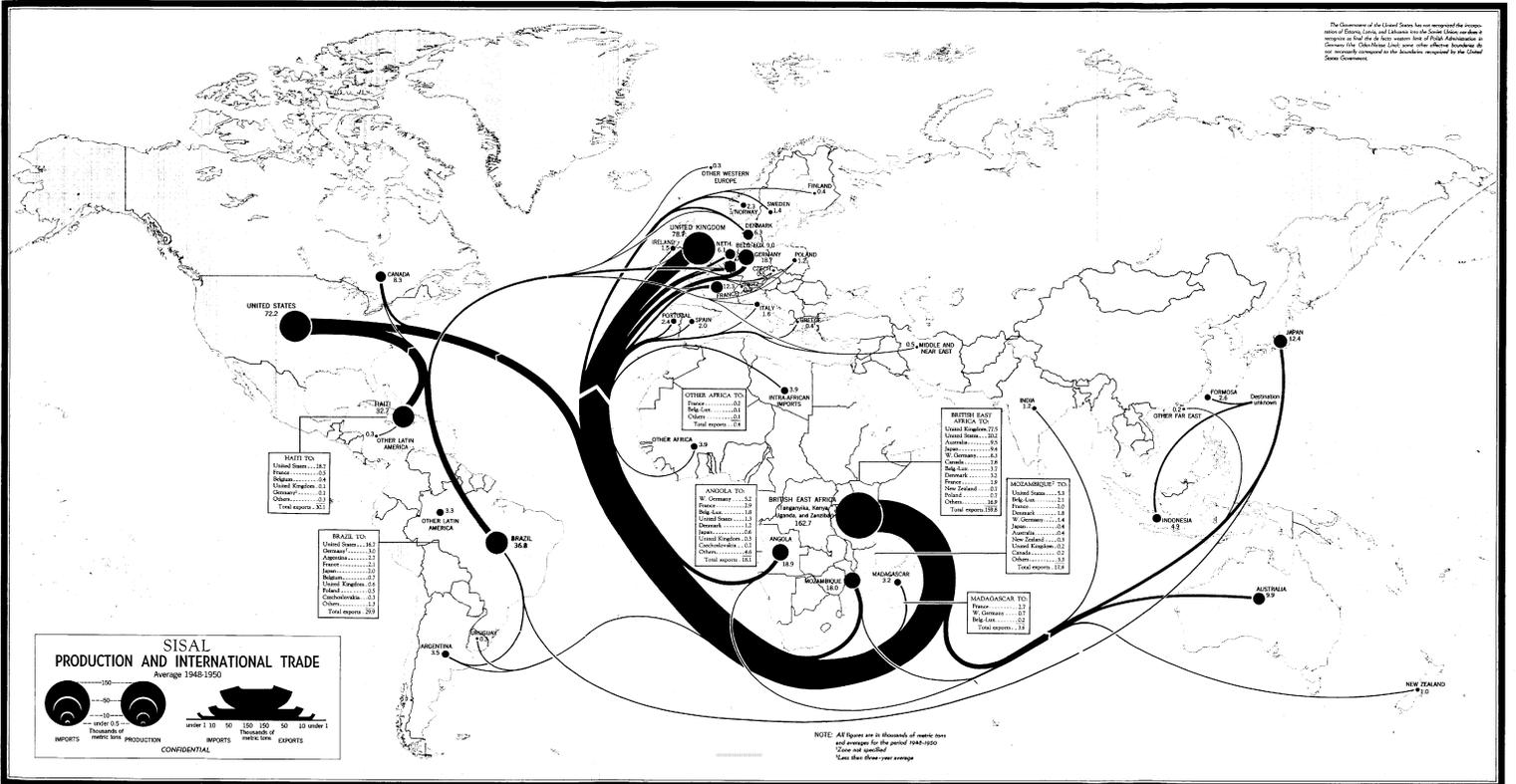
The production of sisal is confined to three widely separated areas in the Free World (See Table 1\*). In the period 1948-50, as indicated by the accompanying chart,\*\* the annual production averaged 287,000 tons, 72 percent of which was made up by Africa, 25 percent by Latin America, and 3 percent by the Far East. Before World War II, Indonesia produced about one-third of the world's supply of sisal, but as a result of military operations during the war the stands of sisal were almost completely destroyed. Although recovery is under way, it is not likely that Indonesia will regain its prewar position for many years, especially under conditions of present prices, which have declined since early 1952.

A rapid and continuous increase in production has characterized the world's sisal industry since the close of World War II. The 1948-50 average annual production was 125 percent of the 229,000-ton prewar production, and the 1952 production, estimated at 362,000 tons, was 158 percent of the prewar figure. Within a favorable price atmosphere, other things being equal, it has been demonstrated that, given time for new plantings to produce fiber (3 to 6 years), sisal production can be expanded to meet the sisal requirements of the Free World. In the

\* P. 13 below.

\*\* Following p. 8.

The Government of the United States has not requested the cooperation of Great Britain, and it is assumed that the United States has no interest in that the U.S. Navy reports lack of high administration or technical facilities. The United States has no other official involvement in the industry controlled as the American companies by the United States Government.



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postwar period, high prices encouraged new plantings in Africa and Latin America; and by mid-1952 there was an ample supply to meet Free World requirements.

For a time prior to World War II, sisal production was increasing so rapidly that production controls were instituted in nearly every producing country in order to prevent a chronic surplus. During World War II the Japanese occupation of the Philippines and Indonesia isolated these countries, thus denying the allied nations access to one-half of the world's supply of hard fibers, including all of the abaca. This condition resulted in a critical depletion of Free World stocks of hard fibers.

Following the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, the demand for sisal products by both military and civilian uses rose rapidly. The higher fiber prices which resulted from the increased demand induced so many producers to make new sisal plantings that it appeared a substantial surplus might result for the next few years. Prices have fallen, however, during the past year or more, and marginal producers are being squeezed out. Sisal production decreased in Brazil and Haiti in 1952, and further declines in prices cannot be ruled out. Unless there is some improvement in prices, Latin American production of hard fibers (henequen as well as sisal) may fall off considerably. If this were to happen, dependence on Eastern hemisphere sources would be increased.

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5. Trade.

During 1948-50 an average of about 258,000 tons of sisal, representing 90 percent of world production, were exported annually from the major producing areas. Trade statistics for exporting countries indicate that about 99 percent of the world's exportable supply of sisal went to countries in the Free World during 1948-50. Of the total amount exported, about 30 percent went to the UK, 28 percent to the US, 35 percent to other US allies, 3 percent to other non-Communist countries, . 3 percent to countries within the producing areas, and the remaining 1 percent to the Soviet Bloc countries (see the chart).

Average annual net exports\* of sisal for 1948-50 from Africa amounted to 195,400 tons, or 76 percent of world net exports, of sisal. This amount was 94 percent of Africa's average annual production. Essentially all of Africa's sisal exports went to countries in the Free World. During the period for which statistics on sisal exports by destination are available (1948-50), the UK was Africa's best customer, taking about 39 percent of the exportable supply. Other allied countries, composed mostly of NATO countries, took an additional 41 percent, leaving approximately 14 and 6 percent, respectively, for the US and other non Communist countries.

\* The term net exports as used in this report refers to total exports of an area minus intra-area exports.

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Latin America's average annual sisal exports during 1948-50 amounted to 57,000 tons, or 22 percent of the world's exportable supply. This amount represented 82 percent of Latin America's production. Very little Latin American sisal was shipped to the Soviet Bloc during the period. During the same period, approximately 80 percent of the sisal exported from Latin America was sent to the US and 18 percent to US allies. A negligible amount went to Soviet Bloc countries.

The remaining 2 percent of the world's exportable supply of sisal, for 1948-50, amounting to about 5,600 tons, was supplied by Indonesia. There are, however, insufficient data for the period to establish trade patterns for Indonesian sisal.

Table 2\* shows the net exports of sisal from producing areas for prewar and war periods and annual exports from 1945 to 1951. Table 3\*\* shows the total exports of sisal from Africa and Latin America by destination. Tables 4 and 5\*\*\* show exports from country of origin in Africa and Latin America, respectively, by destinations.

6. Conclusions.

On the basis of the data presented in this report, if all or most of the African trade in sisal were diverted away from the nations of

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\* P. 15 below.

\*\* Table 3 follows on p. 15.

\*\*\* Table 4 follows on p. 20 and Table 5 follows on p. 22.

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the Free World, the initial loss to the US would amount to about one-third of its annual sisal imports; the UK would be almost completely without raw sisal; and the other US allies would suffer a 90 percent reduction in sisal supplies. Because many of the US allies in Western Europe have been able to purchase African sisal without dollars, sisal has been the main raw material for the cordage industries and has been substituted freely for abaca.

Similarly, the loss of the Latin American supply of sisal would result in a 60-percent loss to the US. Latin American sisal exports to US allies are somewhat negligible, but if, as a result of US losses in Latin America, the US should find it necessary to compete for African sisal, the allies would sustain a considerable curtailment of sisal imports.

Fibers such as abaca, henequen, hemp, jute, istle, cotton, and coir supplemented with the US sisal stockpile probably could mitigate the loss of Latin American sisal to the US until new plantings of sisal could be brought into production in Africa.

Although the US might manage to get by without Latin American sisal, both the US and its allies would be in great difficulties if they were to lose the African supplies. If all other sources of abaca and henequen remained available, it would take several years to compensate for the loss of African sisal, and it would be a very costly undertaking.

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Table 1

Production of Sisal in Specified Surplus-Producing Countries by Area  
Average 1934-38 and 1940-44, Annual 1945-52 a/ b/\*

| Area and Country                  | Thousand Metric Tons |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                   | Average              |              | Annual       |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|                                   | 1934-38              | 1940-44      | 1945         | 1946         | 1947         | 1948         | 1949         | 1950         | 1951 b/      | 1952 b/      |
| Africa                            |                      |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| British East Africa               | 118.4                | 129.4        | 146.2        | 136.0        | 136.0        | 159.2        | 162.9        | 165.1        | 190.5        | 200.0        |
| Mozambique                        | 14.6                 | 14.7         | 18.1         | 16.9         | 17.4         | 17.3         | 18.2         | 18.4         | 19.0         | 21.0         |
| Angola                            | 5.1                  | 8.4          | 13.4         | 14.0         | 12.6         | 15.8         | 19.3         | 21.7         | 23.0         | 22.0         |
| Madagascar                        | 2.4                  | 2.4          | 1.8          | N.A. c/      | 1.1          | 2.5          | 4.1          | 3.1          | 5.9          | 9.0          |
| French West Africa                | 4.4                  | 2.5 a/       | 1.8          | 1.0          | 2.1          | 2.0          | 2.2          | 2.5          | N.A.         | N.A.         |
| Belgian Congo d/                  | 0.3                  | 0.2          | 0.1          | 0.2          | 0.2          | 0.2          | 0.3          | 0.3          | 0.3          | 0.3          |
| Other Countries                   | 1.1                  | 0.3 a/       | 0.6          | 0.9          | 0.8          | 0.7          | 2.4          | 1.2          | 1.0          | N.A.         |
| Total Africa                      | <u>146.3</u>         | <u>157.9</u> | <u>182.0</u> | <u>169.0</u> | <u>170.2</u> | <u>197.7</u> | <u>209.4</u> | <u>212.3</u> | <u>239.7</u> | <u>252.3</u> |
| Latin America                     |                      |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Brazil                            | N.A.                 | 2.1          | 2.6          | 9.4          | 9.6          | 25.9         | 32.0         | 52.4         | 50.0         | 70.0         |
| Haiti                             | 6.1 e/               | 10.0 e/      | 10.9 d/      | 14.6         | 26.1         | 30.4         | 32.8         | 34.0         | 26.3         | 29.5         |
| Venezuela                         | N.A.                 | 0.7 a/       | N.A.         | 2.5          | 3.0          | 3.0          | 2.0          | 3.0          | 8.0          | 10.0         |
| Other Countries                   | 0.7                  | 0.4          | 0.3          | 0.2          | 0.2          | 0.6          | 0.5          | 0.7          | 0.1          | N.A.         |
| Total Latin America               | <u>6.8</u>           | <u>13.2</u>  | <u>13.8</u>  | <u>26.7</u>  | <u>38.9</u>  | <u>59.9</u>  | <u>67.3</u>  | <u>90.1</u>  | <u>84.4</u>  | <u>109.5</u> |
| Far East                          |                      |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Indonesia                         | 75.8                 | 56.8 a/      | N.A.         | 0.6          | 3.7          | 5.3          | 2.5          | 7.0          | 16.1         | N.A.         |
| Formosa                           | N.A.                 | 1.2          | N.A.         | N.A.         | 1.7          | 3.0          | 1.1          | 3.0          | 3.0          | N.A.         |
| Other Countries                   | 0.2                  | N.A.         | N.A.         | N.A.         | N.A.         | N.A.         | 1.0          | N.A.         | N.A.         | N.A.         |
| Total Far East                    | <u>76.0</u>          | <u>58.0</u>  | <u>N.A.</u>  | <u>0.6</u>   | <u>5.4</u>   | <u>8.3</u>   | <u>4.6</u>   | <u>10.0</u>  | <u>19.1</u>  | <u>N.A.</u>  |
| Total Surplus-Producing Countries | <u>229.1</u>         | <u>229.1</u> | <u>195.8</u> | <u>196.3</u> | <u>214.5</u> | <u>265.9</u> | <u>281.3</u> | <u>312.4</u> | <u>343.2</u> | <u>361.8</u> |

\* Footnotes for Table 1 follow on p. 14.

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Table 1

Production of Sisal in Specified Surplus-Producing Countries by Area  
Average 1934-38 and 1940-44, Annual 1945-52 a/ b/  
(Continued)

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- a. Source: Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, US Department of Agriculture (USDA).
  - b. 1951 and 1952 are preliminary estimates.
  - c. N.A. indicates that information is not available.
  - d. Includes Ruandi-Urundi.
  - e. Exports only, excluding estimated domestic consumption of less than 500 metric tons.

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Table 2

Net Exports <sup>a/</sup> of Sisal of Specified Surplus-Producing Countries by Area  
Average 1934-38 and 1940-44, Annual 1945-51 <sup>b/</sup>\*

| Area and Country     | Thousand Metric Tons |                    |              |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
|                      | Average              |                    | Annual       |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                            |
|                      | 1934-38              | 1940-44            | 1945         | 1946                 | 1947                 | 1948                 | 1949                 | 1950                 | 1951 <sup>a/</sup>         |
| <b>Africa</b>        |                      |                    |              |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                            |
| British East Africa  | 118.4                | 129.8              | 142.4        | 139.3                | 122.8                | 151.3                | 169.5                | 143.1                | 185.0                      |
| Mozambique           | 20.0                 | 14.8               | 16.7         | 15.5                 | 15.1                 | 15.1                 | 16.9                 | 17.3                 | 18.1                       |
| Angola               | 5.1                  | 8.2                | 12.5         | 12.7                 | 10.6                 | 15.8                 | 19.3                 | 21.3                 | 23.2                       |
| Madagascar           | 2.4                  | 2.1                | 1.8          | 3.0                  | 1.8                  | 2.3                  | 3.7                  | 4.8                  | N.A. <sup>c/</sup>         |
| French West Africa   | 4.3                  | 1.3                | 1.8          | 1.0                  | 0.6                  | N.A.                 | N.A.                 | 0.4                  | 0.3                        |
| Belgian Congo        | 0.2                  | 0.1 <sup>d/</sup>  | 0.1          | 0.2                  | 0.2                  | N.A.                 | N.A.                 | N.A.                 | N.A.                       |
| Total Africa         | <u>150.4</u>         | <u>156.3</u>       | <u>175.3</u> | <u>171.7</u>         | <u>151.1</u>         | <u>184.5</u>         | <u>209.4</u>         | <u>186.9</u>         | <u>226.6 <sup>e/</sup></u> |
| <b>Latin America</b> |                      |                    |              |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                            |
| Brazil               | N.A.                 | N.A.               | N.A.         | 2.8                  | 14.9                 | 19.9                 | 23.0                 | 46.7                 | 57.4                       |
| Haiti                | 6.1                  | 10.0               | 10.9         | 18.5                 | 21.8                 | 26.5                 | 32.3                 | 31.4                 | 30.0                       |
| Total Latin America  | <u>6.1</u>           | <u>10.0</u>        | <u>10.9</u>  | <u>21.3</u>          | <u>36.7</u>          | <u>46.4</u>          | <u>55.3</u>          | <u>78.1</u>          | <u>87.4</u>                |
| <b>Far East</b>      |                      |                    |              |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                            |
| Indonesia            | 82.7                 | 98.3 <sup>f/</sup> | N.A.         | 0.6 <sup>g/ h/</sup> | 3.7 <sup>g/ h/</sup> | 6.9 <sup>g/ h/</sup> | 2.9 <sup>g/ h/</sup> | 5.9 <sup>g/ h/</sup> | 14.1 <sup>g/ h/</sup>      |
| Formosa              | N.A.                 | 1.1 <sup>i/</sup>  | N.A.         | N.A.                 | N.A.                 | N.A.                 | N.A.                 | N.A.                 | N.A.                       |
| Total Far East       | <u>82.7</u>          | <u>99.4</u>        | <u>N.A.</u>  | <u>0.6</u>           | <u>3.7</u>           | <u>6.9</u>           | <u>2.9</u>           | <u>5.9</u>           | <u>14.1</u>                |

\* Footnotes for Table 2 follow on p. 16.

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Table 2

Net Exports a/ of Sisal of Specified Surplus-Producing Countries by Area  
Average 1934-38 and 1940-44, Annual 1945-51 b/  
(Continued)

- 
- a. Net exports are derived by subtracting intra-area exports from total exports of the area.
  - b. Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, US Department of Agriculture Preliminary report. Exports in some years exceed production because of carry-over from preceding year.
  - c. N.A. indicates that information is not available.
  - d. 1941-44 Average.
  - e. Excludes Madagascar and Belgian Congo.
  - f. Gross weight 1940-41 average.
  - g. Gross weight.
  - h. Includes abaca and a small amount of cantala. No breakdown by type of fiber is available.
  - i. 1940-41 average only.

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Table 3

Exports of Sisal from Specified Areas by Destination  
Average 1948-50 a/\*

| Destination        | Area of Origin    |                          |                     | Total        |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|                    | Africa <u>b</u> / | Latin America <u>c</u> / | Far East <u>d</u> / |              |
| US and Possessions | 26.8              | 45.4                     |                     | 72.2         |
| US Allies          |                   |                          |                     |              |
| NATO Countries     |                   |                          |                     |              |
| UK                 | 78.0              | 0.7                      |                     | 78.7         |
| France             | 9.7               | 2.6                      |                     | 12.3         |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 7.9               | 1.1                      |                     | 9.0          |
| Canada             | 8.0               | 0                        |                     | 8.0          |
| Denmark            | 6.2               | 0                        |                     | 6.2          |
| Other NATO         | 12.3              | 0.9                      |                     | 13.2         |
| Total NATO         | <u>122.1</u>      | <u>5.3</u>               |                     | <u>127.4</u> |
| Other Allies       |                   |                          |                     |              |
| West Germany       | 15.6              | 3.1 <u>e</u> /           |                     | 18.7         |
| Japan              | 10.4              | 2.0                      |                     | 12.4         |
| Australia          | 9.9               | Negligible               |                     | 9.9          |
| New Zealand        | 1.0               | 0                        |                     | 1.0          |
| Total US Allies    | <u>159.0</u>      | <u>10.4</u>              |                     | <u>169.4</u> |
| Other Free World   |                   |                          |                     |              |
| Europe             | 5.8               | 0.3                      |                     | 6.1          |
| Latin America      | 1.1               | 3.0                      |                     | 4.1          |

\* Footnotes for Table 3 follow on p. 19.

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Table 3

Exports of Sisal from Specified Areas by Destination  
Average 1948-50 <sup>a/</sup>  
(Continued)

| Destination                        | Area of Origin       |                             |                        | Total        |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
|                                    | Africa <sup>b/</sup> | Latin America <sup>c/</sup> | Far East <sup>d/</sup> |              |
| Other Free World<br>(Continued)    |                      |                             |                        |              |
| Africa                             | 3.9                  | 0                           |                        | 3.9          |
| Far East, Middle East,<br>and Aden | 1.8                  | Negligible                  |                        | 1.8          |
| Total Other Free World             | <u>12.6</u>          | <u>3.3</u>                  |                        | <u>15.9</u>  |
| Total Free World                   | <u>198.4</u>         | <u>59.1</u>                 |                        | <u>257.5</u> |
| Soviet Bloc                        |                      |                             |                        |              |
| Czechoslovakia                     | 0.2                  | 0.3                         |                        | 0.5          |
| Poland                             | 0.7                  | 0.5                         |                        | 1.2          |
| Total Soviet Bloc                  | <u>0.9</u>           | <u>0.8</u>                  |                        | <u>1.7</u>   |
| Destination Unknown                |                      |                             | 5.6                    | 5.6          |
| Not Specified                      | 0                    | 0.1                         |                        | 0.1          |
| Total Exports                      | <u>199.3</u>         | <u>60.0</u>                 | <u>5.6</u>             | <u>264.9</u> |
| Intra-Area Exports                 | 3.9                  | 3.0                         |                        | 6.9          |
| Net Exports                        | <u>195.4</u>         | <u>57.0</u>                 | <u>5.6</u>             | <u>258.0</u> |

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Table 3

Exports of Sisal from Specified Areas by Destination  
Average 1948-50 a/  
(Continued)

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- a. Source: Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, US Department of Agriculture. Sisal is not produced on a commercial scale in the Near and Middle East or in South Asia. Exports of sisal from Africa represent about 76 percent, Latin America about 22 percent, and the Far East (Indonesia) about 2 percent. Average annual exports of sisal from Indonesia were about 5,600 tons.
- b. Less than 3-year average for Mozambique.
- c. The average for Haiti is calendar years 1948 and 1949 plus the crop year ending 30 September 1951 (calendar year 1950 not available by countries). Total exports from Latin America for the crop year ending 30 September 1951 almost equal total exports for the calendar year 1950.
- d. Data on exports of sisal by destination are not available for the Far East.
- e. Zone not specified.

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Table 4

Exports of Sisal from Specified Countries in Africa by Destination  
Average 1948-50 a/\*

| Destination        | Country of Origin   |                          |             |            |              |              | Total Africa |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                    | British East Africa | Mozambique <sup>b/</sup> | Angola      | Madagascar | Other Africa |              |              |
|                    |                     |                          |             |            |              |              |              |
| US and Possessions | 20.2                | 5.3                      | 1.3         | 0          | 0            | 26.8         |              |
| US Allies          |                     |                          |             |            |              |              |              |
| NATO Countries     |                     |                          |             |            |              |              |              |
| UK                 | 77.5                | 0.2                      | 0.3         | 0          | 0            | 78.0         |              |
| Canada             | 7.8                 | 0.2                      | 0           | 0          | 0            | 8.0          |              |
| France             | 1.9                 | 2.0                      | 2.9         | 2.7        | 0.2          | 9.7          |              |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 3.7                 | 2.1                      | 1.8         | 0.2        | 0.1          | 7.9          |              |
| Denmark            | 3.2                 | 1.8                      | 1.2         | 0          | 0            | 6.2          |              |
| Other NATO         | 7.1                 | 2.4                      | 2.7         | 0          | 0.1          | 12.3         |              |
| Total NATO         | <u>101.2</u>        | <u>8.7</u>               | <u>8.9</u>  | <u>2.9</u> | <u>0.4</u>   | <u>122.1</u> |              |
| Other Allies       |                     |                          |             |            |              |              |              |
| West Germany       | 8.3                 | 1.4                      | 5.2         | 0.7        | 0            | 15.6         |              |
| Japan              | 9.4                 | 0.4                      | 0.6         | 0          | 0            | 10.4         |              |
| Australia          | 9.5                 | 0.4                      | 0           | 0          | 0            | 9.9          |              |
| New Zealand        | 0.7                 | 0.3                      | 0           | 0          | 0            | 1.0          |              |
| Total US Allies    | <u>129.1</u>        | <u>11.2</u>              | <u>14.7</u> | <u>3.6</u> | <u>0.4</u>   | <u>159.0</u> |              |
| Other Free World   |                     |                          |             |            |              |              |              |
| Europe             | 3.7                 | 0.7                      | 1.4         | 0          | 0            | 5.8          |              |
| Africa             | 3.6                 | 0.2                      | 0.1         | 0          | 0            | 3.9          |              |

\* Footnotes for Table 4 follow on p. 21.

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Table 4

Exports of Sisal from Specified Countries in Africa by Destination  
Average 1948-50 <sup>a/</sup>  
(Continued)

| Destination                        | Thousand Metric Tons   |                               |             |                 |                 |                 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                    | Country of Origin      |                               |             |                 |                 |                 |
|                                    | British East<br>Africa | Mozam-<br>bique <sup>b/</sup> | Angola      | Mada-<br>gascar | Other<br>Africa | Total<br>Africa |
| Other Free World<br>(Continued)    |                        |                               |             |                 |                 |                 |
| Far East, Middle East,<br>and Aden | 1.5                    | 0                             | 0.3         | 0               | 0               | 1.8             |
| Latin America                      | 1.0                    | 0                             | 0.1         | 0               | 0               | 1.1             |
| Total Other Free World             | <u>9.8</u>             | <u>0.9</u>                    | <u>1.9</u>  | <u>0</u>        | <u>0</u>        | <u>12.6</u>     |
| Total Free World                   | <u>159.1</u>           | <u>17.4</u>                   | <u>17.9</u> | <u>3.6</u>      | <u>0.4</u>      | <u>198.4</u>    |
| Soviet Bloc                        |                        |                               |             |                 |                 |                 |
| Czechoslovakia                     | 0                      | 0                             | 0.2         | 0               | 0               | 0.2             |
| Poland                             | 0.7                    | 0                             |             | 0               | 0               | 0.7             |
| Total Soviet Bloc                  | <u>0.7</u>             | <u>0</u>                      | <u>0.2</u>  | <u>0</u>        | <u>0</u>        | <u>0.9</u>      |
| Total Exports                      | <u>159.8</u>           | <u>17.4</u>                   | <u>18.1</u> | <u>3.6</u>      | <u>0.4</u>      | <u>199.3</u>    |
| Intra-Area Exports                 | 3.6                    | 0.2                           | 0.1         | 0               | 0               | 3.9             |
| Net Exports                        | <u>156.2</u>           | <u>17.2</u>                   | <u>18.0</u> | <u>3.6</u>      | <u>0.4</u>      | <u>195.4</u>    |

a. Source: Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, US Department of Agriculture.

b. Less than 3-year average.

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Table 5

Exports of Sisal from Specified Countries  
in Latin America by Destination  
Average 1948-50 a/\*

| Thousand Metric Tons       |               |                            |                                |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <u>Destination</u>         | <u>Brazil</u> | <u>Haiti <sup>b/</sup></u> | <u>Total Latin<br/>America</u> |
| US and Possessions         | 16.7          | 28.7                       | 45.4                           |
| US Allies                  |               |                            |                                |
| NATO Countries             |               |                            |                                |
| France                     | 2.1           | 0.5                        | 2.6                            |
| Belgium                    | 0.7           | 0.4                        | 1.1                            |
| UK                         | 0.6           | 0.1                        | 0.7                            |
| Other NATO                 | 0.9           | 0                          | 0.9                            |
| Total NATO                 | <u>4.3</u>    | <u>1.0</u>                 | <u>5.3</u>                     |
| Other Allies               |               |                            |                                |
| West Germany <sup>c/</sup> | 3.0           | 0.1                        | 3.1                            |
| Japan                      | 2.0           | 0                          | 2.0                            |
| Australia                  | Negligible    | 0                          | Negligible                     |
| Total US Allies            | <u>9.3</u>    | <u>1.1</u>                 | <u>10.4</u>                    |
| Other Free World           |               |                            |                                |
| Europe                     | 0.3           | 0                          | 0.3                            |
| Argentina                  | 2.7           | 0                          | 2.7                            |
| Other Latin America        | 0             | 0.3                        | 0.3                            |
| India                      | Negligible    | 0                          | Negligible                     |
| Total Other Free World     | <u>3.0</u>    | <u>0.3</u>                 | <u>3.3</u>                     |
| Total Free World           | <u>29.0</u>   | <u>30.1</u>                | <u>59.1</u>                    |

\* Footnotes for Table 5 follow on p. 23.

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Table 5

Exports of Sisal from Specified Countries  
in Latin America by Destination  
Average 1948-50. a/  
(Continued)

| Thousand Metric Tons |               |                        |                            |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>Destination</u>   | <u>Brazil</u> | <u>Haiti <u>b/</u></u> | <u>Total Latin America</u> |
| Soviet Bloc          |               |                        |                            |
| Czechoslovakia       | 0.3           | 0                      | 0.3                        |
| Poland               | 0.5           | 0                      | 0.5                        |
| Total Soviet Bloc    | <u>0.8</u>    | <u>0</u>               | <u>0.8</u>                 |
| Not Specified        | 0.1           | 0                      | 0.1                        |
| Total Exports        | <u>29.9</u>   | <u>30.1</u>            | <u>60.0</u>                |
| Intra-Area Exports   | 2.7           | 0.3                    | 3.0                        |
| Net Exports          | <u>27.2</u>   | <u>29.8</u>            | <u>57.0</u>                |

a. Source: Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, US Department of Agriculture.

b. Calendar year 1950 not available by countries. Average is calendar years 1948 and 1949 plus crop year ending 30 September 1951. Total exports for the crop year ending 30 September 1951 almost exactly equal total exports for the calendar year 1950.

c. Zone not specified.

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